



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

18 NOVEMBER 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles-Long Beach – Authorities Seized \$1 Billion Worth of Fake Designer Goods in 2022

(U) Seaport officials seized \$1 billion worth of counterfeit products in 2022, marking a new record. Officials with the Los Angeles/Long Beach Seaport hit the historic mark on 15 September, hitting the record number in less than a year. The \$1 billion amount reflects the estimated total manufacturer's suggested retail price of the seized goods if they were genuine. The most popular counterfeit items include apparel, accessories, handbags, wallets, footwear, watches, jewelry, and consumer electronics. SOURCE: 17 November 2022, [KTLA](#)

(U) Los Angeles – 22 Arrested for LA Railroad Burglaries, \$18 Million in Stolen Merchandise Recovered

(U) LAPD announced that a yearlong investigation of cargo train burglaries netted 22 arrests and \$18 million in recovered merchandise. The 22 people arrested are now facing charges of burglary, cargo theft and receiving stolen property. Officials said they stored the stolen merchandise in their homes, cars, and other warehouse facilities, and that they sold items in LA County and as far as Arizona. Authorities also shut down four storage locations that contained drugs and assault weapons. SOURCE: 17 November 2022, [KTLA](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Couple Extradited to the US from Montenegro for \$20 Million Fraud Scheme

(U) A Southern California couple who fled to Montenegro to avoid serving lengthy prison sentences in a large COVID-relief fraud scheme were returned to the United States last night after more than a year as fugitives. In June 2021, the couple was convicted by a federal jury of leading a conspiracy to fraudulently obtain more than \$20 million in COVID-19 relief funds. While free on bond, they are believed to have fled after cutting their tracking bracelets, abandoning their three teenage children. The couple was apprehended in February living under forged Mexican passports at a seaside villa on the Bay of Kotor. SOURCE: 18 November 2022, [LA Times](#) [DOJ](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – 900 Migrants Surrender as Migrant Camp in Juarez Dismantled

(U) El-Paso – Around 900 migrants surrendered to US Border Patrol agents in El Paso as a large migrant encampment was dismantled in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico yesterday. The migrants began crossing the Rio Grande River to surrender to agents on Wednesday, soon after Title 42 was vacated by US federal court. Border Patrol said the migrants were mainly from Venezuela, Nicaragua, Colombia, and Cuba. SOURCE: 17 November 2022, [KFOX 14](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Massachusetts – Neo-Nazi Group Threatens Residents in Harvard Square

(U) Cambridge – Members of a neo-Nazi group harassed and threatened residents in Cambridge Sunday, lunging and shouting at people across the street from Quincy House. Members of the group wore apparel bearing the name of the Nationalist Social Club, also known as the 131 Crew, a neo-Nazi group based in New England. A video posted by NSC-131 on Tuesday on the online video-sharing platform

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Odysee, showed members of the group performing an apparent Nazi salute in front of the Democracy Center, a Cambridge meeting house where the Boston Anarchist Bookfair was taking place over the weekend.

SOURCE: 16 November 2022, [The Harvard Crimson](#)

(U) Ohio – CBP Seizes \$1.2 Million Worth of Cocaine and Meth in Outbound Shipments

(U) Cincinnati – Over the past three weeks US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers in Cincinnati seized ten shipments of narcotics being moved from and through the United States to countries around the world. Combined, the shipments held nearly 100 pounds of dangerous and illegal narcotics: about 74 pounds of cocaine and 24 pounds of methamphetamine, which could have a cumulative US street value of up to \$1,214,640. Several shipments originated in California, including some disguised in tea sets, a socket set, puzzle boxes, and a chessboard.

SOURCE: 16 November 2022, [US CBP](#)

(U) Puerto Rico – US Border Patrol Agent, Suspected Smuggler Killed off Puerto Rico Coast

(U) Cabo Rojo – A US Customs and Border Protection agent and a suspected smuggler died, and two US officers were injured during a shootout yesterday off the Puerto Rico coast. CBP's Air and Marine Operations unit was on routine patrol off the coast of Cabo Rojo when the shots were fired. Three agents exchanged gunfire with two people who were aboard a suspected smuggling ship. All three agents were shot and airlifted to local hospitals in Puerto Rico where one of the agents was later pronounced dead. One aboard the suspected smuggling ship was killed and the second arrested.

SOURCE: 17 November 2022, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Utah – Highway Patrol Finds \$2 Million Worth of Controlled Substances in Traffic Stop

(U) Emery County – On 14 November, UHP officers stopped a vehicle for speeding and became suspicious of criminal activity. After a police dog gave positive indications, officers searched the vehicle and found approximately 70 pounds of suspected methamphetamine, 33 pounds of suspected fentanyl pills, 3 pounds of suspected heroin, 2.5 pounds of suspected cocaine, and 1 ounce of suspected MDMA pills worth an estimated \$2 million. The owner of the vehicle and the passenger were taken into custody and charged with felony possession with intent to distribute.

SOURCE: 15 November 2022, [ABC 4](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Quebec Man Charged with Terrorism over Alleged Haiti Coup Plot

(U) A Lévis – A Quebec man is facing terrorism charges after RCMP say he allegedly planned a terrorist act to overthrow the Haitian government of Jovenel Moïse. The defendant took "concrete actions," including travelling to Haiti to co-ordinate a group of individuals whose intention was to take part in a coup against the established authority. He faces three charges, including leaving Canada to facilitate a terrorist activity, facilitating a terrorist activity, and providing property for terrorist purposes.

SOURCE: 17 November 2022, [CBC](#)

(U) India – External Affairs Ministry Driver Detained for Espionage

(U) New Delhi – Delhi Police's Crime Branch team has arrested a driver working in the Ministry of External Affairs on charges of espionage for allegedly leaking confidential details to a Pakistan-based person, sources said today. The suspect allegedly used to pass "confidential and sensitive" information

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related to national security to a person based in Pakistan. The source said the driver was honey-trapped by Pakistani Intelligence Office who pretended to be a woman when he spoke with him.

SOURCE: 18 November 2022, [The Tribune India](#)

(U) Italy – One of Europe's Most-Wanted Criminals Extradited from Syria Following Arrest

(U) Geneva – An Italian drug trafficker, one of Europe's most-wanted criminals, has been arrested in Syria and extradited to Italy, according to Italian officials and a Syrian jihadist rebel group. Bruno Carbone was sentenced in absentia in Italy to 20 years in prison for international drug trafficking along the Spain-Naples-Sicily route, had been on the run since 2003. Carbone is known as a close associate of Naples' Camorra mafia member Raffaele Imperiale, who is considered to have been one of the biggest drug traffickers in the world. Imperiale was arrested in Dubai in 2021.

SOURCE: 17 November 2022, [The Guardian](#)

(U) Switzerland – Alleged Ukrainian Cybercriminal Arrested

(U) Geneva – A Ukrainian man wanted for over a decade by the FBI for a multimillion-dollar hacking scheme has been arrested in Switzerland and is awaiting extradition to the US. Vyacheslav Penchukov, known as "Tank" online, is accused of being a major player in a racketeering ring that allegedly drained millions of dollars from the bank accounts of Americans and other nationalities in the late 2000s and early 2010s. Penchukov was arrested in the canton of Geneva, Switzerland on 23 October, and Swiss authorities granted his extradition to the US on Tuesday.

SOURCE: 16 November 2022, [CNN](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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